

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 remain pending in this application. New claims 8-10 have been added in this Amendment.

Applicant appreciatively notes that claims 5 and 6 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim any intervening claims.

Claims 1-4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugajin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,268,869) in view of Moriya (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,687). In response, claim 1 has been amended and is believed patentable over this combination of references for the reasons discussed below.

It is conceded that Ugajin et al fails to explicitly teach or suggest that deleting segment field data selected based on the players' position from the resident in memory and reading new segment field data into memory based on the players' position. This is what Moriya teaches.

Claim 1 has been amended to emphasize in the present invention only some of the plurality of segment field data is deleted and the remaining segments are not deleted. (specification page 5, lines 10- 19). By contrast, in Moriya, data is stored in the storage media for each stage when the game goes to a new stage, "all" data stored in memory are replaced with new data (column 6, line 1 to column 7, line 23). In contrast,, as recited in amended claim 1, a "part" of plural segments stored in memory are replaced with one or more segments in accordance with the position of a player (claim 1) or the segment (claim 8).

Further, Applicant contends that Ugajin et al. and Moriya are from nonanalogous arts.

"The determination that a reference is from a nonanalogous art is therefore two-fold. First, we decide if the reference is within the field of the inventor's endeavor. If it is not, we proceed to determine whether the reference is reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was involved." In re Wood, 599 F.2d 1032, 1036 (CCPA 1979).

In the present application, the inventor was concerned with replacing segments of data with a player's progress in a game to continuously display high quality images during a game without reusing graphical data. By contrast, Moriya sequentially stores data related to plural

characters in media and stores only data which relates to necessary characters in memory. Thus, readout speed could be increased. As the stage goes on, the above processes performed again and all the data of RAM are replaced with other data. In Ugajin et al., when there are a number of objects, an image of the object located in an inconspicuous position of the game screen is a race in every other frame. Thus, an interval of display update is reduced to half. Neither Ugajin et al. nor Moriya is concerned with the problem the present inventor was facing. Thus, neither reference is appropriate prior art.

Further, even if Moriya and Ugajin et al. were combined in the manner suggested by the Examiner, Moriya and Ugajin et al. do not disclose the method to replace a part of plural segments stored in memory with another one and thus the combination of these two patents does not lead to the present invention. Thus, for any of these reasons the obviousness rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn. Claims 4-7 recite additional, important limitations and should be allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 as well as on their own merits.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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